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PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 remain in the application.

Claims 1-10, 20 and 27 are allowed.

The undersigned acknowledges with appreciation a recent telephone interview with the examiner, in which the issues surrounding claims 11 and 21 in particular were discussed. The examiner indicated that these claims define over the art of record, subject to additional searching.

Claims 11, 12, 14, and 17 were rejected under §102(b) as unpatentable over Calma. The rejection is in error when it asserts that Calma discloses "an electrical component 8 proximate to the tip and serially intervening between the tip and an opposed end of the pin." In fact, the asserted component 8 of Calma is not part of the pin, but part of the device under test. Nor does the Calma component serially intervene between the tip and opposite end of any pin. Moreover, the other art of record showing components associated with probe pins to not include the component on a pin that is spring biased. For this reason, claim 11 should be allowable.

Claims 12-20 depend from claim 11 and should be allowable for the above reasons and because of the features set forth therein.

Claim 12 should be allowable for the additional reason that the pins of Calma do not extend beyond the periphery, as asserted in the action. The body 4 asserted as the board appears to have a periphery (not shown) that extends well beyond the ragged right and left edges shown in Fig. 2 of Calma. And Calma's pins do not extend laterally toward or even near the periphery, let alone beyond it. The pins extend perpendicularly to the plane of the body, so that no amount of extension will project them beyond any possible body periphery. Applicant is using the language "extends beyond the periphery" in the conventional sense that an element does not extend beyond the periphery of a planar surface unless it extends laterally beyond the edge of the surface. Similarly, a tree does not extend beyond the periphery of a property simply by growing upward, but only if a limb extends laterally to overhang beyond the property line.

Claim 21-23 were rejected under §102(b) as unpatentable over Hadwin. Claim 21 was previously amended to clarify that the pin is electrically connected to the sleeve, in contrast to the

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grounded metal receptacle 44 of Hadwin. The latest Office action did not acknowledge this amendment.

Hadwin discloses an electrical probe with a spring biased pin 26 reciprocating in a spring-loaded sheath 28. An electrical component 34 is connected to the fixed rear end of the sheath (away from the pin end), with the component providing a serial connection between the sheath and a transmission line 18. The electrical component is not part of nor directly connected to the pin, nor part of the sleeve. A non-conductive sleeve 32 mechanically receives and supports the pin-sheath and component.

The Hadwin capacitor 34 is not part of nor included in the pin 26, which is the only Hadwin component that may be cited as a pin movably received in the bore of a conductive sleeve to which the pin is electrically connected. The Hadwin capacitor is positioned away from the pin, beyond the fixed sleeve 28, and does not move. Thus, Hadwin does not disclose a movable, biased pin that includes a capacitor.

Accordingly, claim 21 should be allowable.

Claims 22-29 depend from claim 21 and should be allowable for the above reasons and because of the features set forth therein.

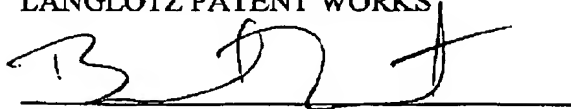
The remaining rejections are traversed for the reasons set forth in applicant's prior amendment.

The application should now be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,
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